

Wisconsin Hay Stocks Up

Stocks of all dry hay stored on Wisconsin farms totaled 1.14 million tons on May 1, a 22 percent increase from the 927,000 tons stored on May 1, 2005. Hay stocks persisted even though hay production in 2005 was down 8 percent from the previous year. A significant contribution to the higher stocks was that Wisconsin farmers elected to use more of the record corn silage production to feed their livestock during the past winter. Good pasture conditions this spring also contributed to the level of hay stocks. During the period December 1, 2005-May 1, 2006, the state's livestock and dairy producers fed 2.05 million tons of dry hay compared to 2.61 million tons during the same time period a year earlier.

Nationally, on-farm stocks of dry hay totaled 21.3 million tons on May 1, down 23 percent from the previous year. The decrease was mainly due to lower hay production in 2005. Disappearance of hay from December 1, 2005-May 1, 2006, totaled 83.7 million tons, 3 percent less than the disappearance of 86.8 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Hay Stocks on Farms, May 1

State	2004	2005	2006
	1,000 tons		
Wisconsin	920	927	1,135
Illinois	408	460	324
Iowa	605	1,250	1,000
Kansas	1,400	1,735	800
Michigan	250	500	395
Minnesota	575	884	1,150
Missouri	1,462	2,166	873
Montana	790	860	1,463
Nebraska	1,596	1,440	1,070
North Dakota	828	917	1,806
South Dakota	1,515	2,100	2,140
United States	25,947	27,758	21,315

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.